

COMPUTER SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPERATING MULTIPLE OPERATING SYSTEMS IN DIFFERENT PARTITIONS OF THE COMPUTER SYSTEM AND FOR ALLOWING THE DIFFERENT PARTITIONS TO COMMUNICATE WITH ONE ANOTHER THROUGH SHARED MEMORY

Publication number: JP2002532806T

Publication date: 2002-10-02

Inventor:

Applicant:

Classification:

- international: **G06F15/17; G06F9/46; G06F9/50; G06F12/00; G06F12/02; G06F15/16; G06F9/46; G06F12/00; G06F12/02; (IPC1-7): G06F9/46; G06F12/00; G06F15/167**

- European: G06F9/46R6F

Application number: JP20000588687T 19991217

Priority number(s): US19980215424 19981218; WO1999US30437 19991217

Also published as:

WO0036509 (A3)
WO0036509 (A2)
EP1145122 (A3)
EP1145122 (A2)
JP2006216068 (A)

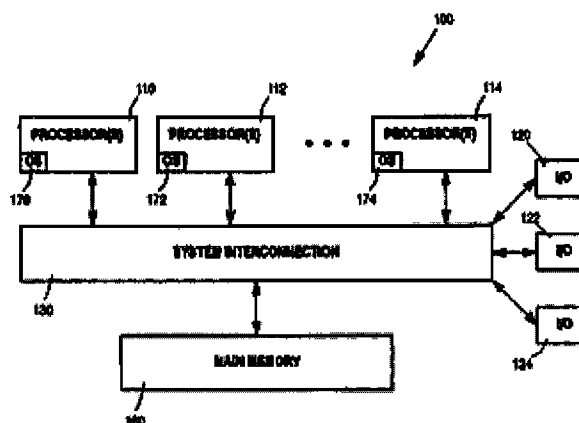
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Abstract not available for JP2002532806T

Abstract of corresponding document: **WO0036509**

A computer system comprises a plurality of processing modules that can be configured into different partitions within the computer system, and a main memory. Each partition operates under the control of a separate operating system. At least one shared memory window is defined within the main memory to which multiple partitions have shared access, and each partition may also be assigned an exclusive memory window. Program code executing on different partitions enables those partitions to communicate with each other through the shared memory window. Means are also provided for mapping the physical address space of the processors in each partition to the respective exclusive memory windows assigned to each partition, so that the exclusive memory windows assigned to each partition appear to the respective operating systems executing on those partitions as if they all start at the same base address.



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